Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-07 NSCE-00 H-01 PRS-01 AGR-03

AID-10 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-03 FRB-03 IO-03

LAB-01 OIC-01 OMB-01 SIL-01 SP-02 STR-01 SWF-01 TAR-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 EUR-10 EA-13

NEA-06 ARA-10 DRC-01 /112 W

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R 021624Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5414

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD, GW

SUBJECT: CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF

STATES

REF: STATE 215547 CONFIDENTIAL

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- 1. SUMMARY. THE FRG SHARES IN GENERAL THE
 ASSESSMENT PRESENTED IN REFTEL. IT CONTINUES TO
 MAINTAIN ITS HARD LINE ON ARTICLE TWO, ALTHOUGH IN
 THE END IT IS LIKELY TO CAVE. ON SOME ISSUES EC
 CONSIDERATIONS DICTATE TACTICAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
 THE FRG AND US POSITIONS. END SUMMARY.
- 2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED THE CONTENTS OF REFTEL WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY UN EXPERT DITTMANN. THIS DISCUSSION WAS ESPECIALLY TIMELY SINCE DITTMANN WILL REPRESENT THE FRG IN THE EC DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES ON OCTOBER 2. THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS PRESENT DITTMANN'S REACTION TO THE INDIVIDUAL TOPICS RAISED IN REFTEL.
- 3. ARTICLE TWO. DITTMANN AGREED THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR COMPROMISE ON ARTICLE 2 ARE NOT GOOD. HE SAID THE FRG STILL FAVORS THE FORMULATION "OBLIGATIONS UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW", AND HE NOTED WITH SORROW THAT THIS FORMULATION MET WITH NO GROUP B ACCEPTANCE IN RECENT DISCUSSIONS IN EITHER GENEVA OR PARIS. DITTMANN SAID HE AGREED WITH THE ARGUMENTATION CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 3F REFTEL. HE SAID HE WOULD GUESS (NOT PROMISE BUT GUESS) THAT IN THE END THE FRG WOULD SWALLOW "INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS". HE SAID HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO SAY THIS YET, SINCE HE STILL HAD SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH HIS LEGAL ADVISER AND IN ANY CASE THE FRG WOULD CERTAINLY NOT MAKE THIS DECISION IN OCTOBER. IF THE FRG ACCEPTS THIS LANGUAGE IT WOULD THEN PROBABLY MAKE AN EXPLANATION OF VOTE NOTING THAT IT CONSIDERS INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS TO MEAN INTERNATIONAL LAW. DITTMANN STATED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A SUGGESTION TO DROP ALL REFERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND INSTEAD REFER BACK TO CHAPTER 1. HE STATED THAT THIS SUGGESTION WAS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.
- 4. MFN. DITTMANN SAID THAT THE EC ACCEPTS THE BRILLANTES FORMULA ON MFN AS IT IS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE ARE NO CHANGES IN IT. HE SAID IF THE EAST BLOC WANTS TO FIDDLE WITH THE LANGUAGE, THIS AGREEMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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MAY COLLAPSE. HE SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE A VERY SERIOUS MATTER. DITTMANN ASKED EMBOFF TO PASS ON THE FRG'S APPREICATION FOR THE US SUPPORT OF THE BRILLANTES FORMULA.

5. OBJECTIONABLE PROVISIONS. THE FRG SHARES OUR VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO DELETE ALL THREE OBJECTIONABLE PROVISIONS. DITTMANN SAID THAT THE FRG

WAS MAINTAINING ITS HARD LINE ON INDEXATION AND IT WOULD INSIST THAT THIS PROVISION BE DELETED. HE SAID THAT THE FRG ALSO OPPOSES THE PARAGRAPH ON RESTITUTION, BUT THAT IT WOULD LEAVE THE TASK OF FIGHTING THIS ONE TO THE BRITISH, FRENCH, ET AL. IN THE CASE OF PRODUCER ASSOCIATIONS, DITTMANN SAID THAT THE EC COMMISSION IS ATTEMPTING TO PEDDLE THE FOLLOWING FORMULATION: "ALL STATES HAVE THE RIGHT TO ASSOCIATE IN ORGANIZATIONS, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE SUSTAINED GROWTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY FOR THE BENEFIT BOTH OF DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES." HE SAID THE FRG DIDN'T PARTICULARLY LIKE THE COMMISSION'S INITIATIVE BUT THAT

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SINCE THE LANGUAGE WAS UNOBJECTIONABLE AND THE OTHER EC MEMBERS SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL, THE FRG WAS NOT BLOCKING IT. DITTMANN STATED THAT THE TEXT AS CONTAINED INTHE ACTION PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE VENEZUELAN AND AUSTRALIAN PROPOSALS WERE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

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- 6. SECURITY OF SUPPLY. DITTMANN SAID HE PERSONALLY SHARES OUR ASSESSMENT IN THIS AREA. HE FEELS THAT IN A CRUNCH THESE PARAGRAPHS WOULDN'T PROVIDE THE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES WITH MUCH PROTECTION AND THAT THEY WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO PAY TOO MUCH IN THE WAY OF ACCEPTING OTHER OBJECTIONABLE PARAGRAPHS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SATISFACTORY LANGUAGE IN THIS AREA. HIS PREFERENCE WOULD BE TO DROP THESE TWO PARAGRAPHS WITH THE THREE OBJECTIONABLE ONES. DITTMANN STATED THAT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DISAGREEMENT WITHIN THE EC. HOWEVER, ON HOW TO PROCEED. HE SAID SOME COUNTRIES AND SOME ELEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION FELT THAT THE PROVISION ON SECURITY OF SUPPLY WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT OF THE CHARTER AND THAT THE GROUP B COUNTRIES SHOULD MAKE A MAJOR EFFORT TO OBTAIN SATISFACTORY LANGUAGE ON THIS PROVISION. HE SAID THAT MANY COUNTRIES OF THE EC AS WELL AS ELEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ALSO FAVOR COMMODITY AGREEMENTS AND THEY WERE WILLING TO FIGHT TO SEE THIS PROVISION KEPT IN THE CHARTER. HE STATED THAT IT WAS NOT EASY WITHIN THE EC CONTEXT TO ALLOW THESE TWO PROVISIONS TO WITHER AWAY.
- 7. VOTING. DITTMANN SAID THAT THE FRG HAS NOT YET DECIDED HOW IT WOULD PROCEED IF IT COMES TO A CRUNCH DURING THE CURRENT UNGA. HE SAID HE LIKES THE CASTANEDA PROPOSAL TO DROP THE CONTENTIOUS PROVISIONS AND APPROVE WHAT IS LEFT BY ACCLAMATION. HE SAID THE FRG IS ALSO PREPARED TO POSTPONE A FINAL DECISION IN THIS SESSION AND TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS NEXT YEAR. IF IT COMES TO A VOTE, HOWEVER, AND THE CHARTER IS CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE, THE FRG WILL HAVE TO CLOSELY EXAMINE THE FINAL TEXT AND THEN DECIDE IF IT IS BETTER OVERALL TO VOTE "NO" ON THE ENTIRE CHARTER OR TO

ABSAIN ON THE CHARTER AND VOTE "NO" ON SPECIFIC PARAGRAPHS. EMBOFF STRESSED THE US POSITION EXPRESSED IN PARAGRAPH 3D REFTEL THAT A NEGATIVE VOTE WOULD BE THE ONLY WAY OF ADEQUATELY PROTECTING DEVELOPED COUNTRIES' INTERESTS IN THE FACE OF AN UNACCEPTABLE CHARTER AND EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF GROUP B UNITY. DITTMANN SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THE US VIEWS, BUT THERE WAS STILL SOME CONCERN WITHIN THE FRG CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT IN THE END THE US MIGHT CAVE IN THE FAC OF HIGH LEVEL MEXICAN PRESSURE.

8. DITTMANN SAID HE DID NOT CONSIDER THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS BEGINNING OCTOBER 8 TO BE DECISIVE AND CONSEQUENTLY HE WOULD NOT BE GOING TO NEW YORK TO PARTICIPATE IN THEM. HE SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO FLY TO NEW YORK IMMEDIATELY, HOWEVER, IF THE SITUATION BECAME CRITICAL. HILLENBRAND

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